

# CHAPMAN PICKED RODGERS AS HIS PAL AFTER BREAK WITH DUTCH ANDERSON

## N. Y. Crooks Laid Careful Plans to Poison Shean In His Cell at Hartford

Details of why Chapman paid \$5,000 to get Bum Rodgers out of prison and cemented permanent friendship between two merciless crooks are told today in the story of "X-1496," an exposé, exclusive to The GRAPHIC, of the underworld and its conspiracy of blood.

### The Truth about "Bum" Rodgers

By X-4196

INSTALLMENT NO. 3

Chapman was in New York when Bum was sent to the penitentiary in the latter part of 1924. Bum was in the "stir" when Shean made his confession implicating Chapman in the murder at New Britain.

In the latter part of November Tommy Baldwin got a tip that Bum could buy his way out of prison for "five grand" by the way of a phony getaway.

#### Chapman Out First

You will recall that Chapman made his escape from Atlanta before Anderson did. A short while after Chapman "beat" Atlanta the Dutchman "beat" it. They met in New York some time in November. Anderson and Chappie were not



Bum Rodgers    Gerald Chapman

the same old pals. Chapman was in love with Betty, and Anderson thought Betty knew too much about their activities. On more than one occasion Anderson tried to "split them out," but Chapman wouldn't listen to it. He loved Betty. He wouldn't leave her. Anderson then said:

"Good-by and good luck."

#### Crook Pals Split

So they separated. Chapman was without a pal. He decided that Bum might make a good "side kicker," whereupon he put up the "five grand" to get Bum out of prison. Then something happened.

Tommy Baldwin got a tip—one of those underground tips—from some mysterious person that the coppers were after Chapman.

Within half an hour after Chappie received this information from Tommy Baldwin he was on his way to Albany in a high-powered automobile.

A few months later Bum, Jimmy Cunniffe and Vince McCormack made their getaway from the pen. Everybody who was not on the inside thought that getaway was on the level. NOBODY knew that "five grand" had been passed to some crooked screw (keeper).

**SHEAN WAS IN THE HARTFORD JAIL WAITING FOR THE COPPERS TO CATCH CHAPMAN WHEN BUM CONCEIVED THE GREAT IDEA TO PUT THE RAT WHERE HE COULDNT DO ANY MORE SQUEALING.**

#### Two More Admirers

Cunniffe and Vince McCormack were with him to the limit. They, too, had become admirers of Chapman's for putting up the "five grand" which brought them 11b-

erty. They were ready and willing to go through with Bum on the job of silencing Shean.

"I'll get that rat," Bum's long thin face lighted up with a fiendish grin. "I'll croak him before they get Chappie."

We were over in one of those cellar speakeasies on West 56th Street, where nobody but "right people" could get in.

"Now," I said to myself, "I'll hear some bughouse plan from this mad man."

#### No Chances Taken

But he fooled me. It was not a bughouse plan.

"It's a great idea," he went on, "this idea I got. Wait until you guys hear it. I got it from 'Jimmy the Apache,' a little French prowler that I met up the river."

I knew "Jimmy the Apache"—he was a little hunchback Parisian who boasted of the crimes he had committed. He had made a study of deadly poisons, and while he was in Sing Sing and Dannemora, he planned to poison a guard who had beaten him several times because he wouldn't do what the guard told him to do.

Then he went into the details of his plan to "get" Walter Shean. He said he would go to Hartford and learn what restaurant in town was serving Shean his meals in the jail. After he got that information, he intended to do one of two things—either obtain employment in the restaurant, so that he could slip a dose of prussic acid in Shean's food, or "crash" into the jail and slip the prussic acid in his food.

But Tommy Baldwin, who was a pretty level headed fellow, objected to Bum's scheme for killing Shean.

"It's a swell idea," Tommy said, "but don't be in such a hurry, Bum. They've not got Chappie yet. It will be time enough to attend to Shean after they've nailed Chappie."

Bum pleaded that Shean should be killed before Chapman was "nailed."

He couldn't "see" Tommy Baldwin's argument at all.

"He's a rat," Bum replied, "and he ought to be knocked off on general principles, whether they nail Chappie or not, and I'm going to knock him off."

#### Determined to Murder

Nobody could change his mind on Shean. He was determined to "get" him, and Jimmy Cunniffe was ready to help him. Chapman, they said, was "a great guy" and they were bent on killing Shean so that he couldn't hurt Chappie. Loerber had "ducked." One night they came within an ace of killing Loerber at 97th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Only the arrival of a

wagonload of cops on their way to raid a booze joint saved Loerber. Bum and Cunniffe thought the cops were after them and beat a hasty retreat when they heard the gong of the oncoming patrol wagon.

Shean was more important than Loerber. Loerber had done his job, but Shean was on his way to doing a far more dirty job than Loerber. Loerber had told the truth about his connections with Chapman and Anderson, while Shean was trying to send an innocent man to the rope in order to protect himself and his family.

Bum then "propositioned" others. All turned him down on his idea to go to Hartford with us and "help knock off that rat."

Finally, Rodgers, Cunniffe and one other crook started for Connecticut.

Next chapter the trip to Connecticut to "get" Shean and more details about the plan to avenge Chapman.

## Bum Rodgers's Gang Sends Threat to Graphic by Mail

Bum Rodgers served a written "death warrant" today on The GRAPHIC!

It came in the form of a letter from the Brooklyn underworld, where he and his mob of killers are said to be in hiding, afraid of the police drag net that envelops his old hangout at 96th Street and 2d Avenue.

It followed hard on the heels of a second telephone death threat which came to The GRAPHIC at 7 o'clock last night.

"Hello, hello," said an excited voice over the wire last night. "Cut out that Bum Rodgers stuff. You only got until Friday to live if you don't."

Bomb Letter Mailed at 7 P. M. That was at 7 p. m. Three hours later the "bomb letter" was mailed.

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**Your Halloween Party**  
To Make Merry the Night of Mirth and Mystery!

**Wedgewood Chocolates**  
or Bon Bons and Chocolates: For this Halloween Package of delicious Sweets, the artist just threw his heart and soul into the design on the wrap, and it is strikingly handsome!  
Full Pound 59c

**Halloween Cakes**  
Delicious, orange flavored icings—Black Cat decorations, filled with fortune-telling toys. Leave your order now \$1.39 at any Loft store.

**Halloween Mixtures**  
Fancy Assorted Hard Candies in Autumn's golden tints.  
Full Pound 54c

**Halloween Fancy Boxes**  
Round and oblong, handsomely decorated in rich and attractive colors and filled with the most delicious of sweets.  
89c \$1.19 \$1.59

**Halloween Party Package**  
Consisting of six halloween Loftypops, six Marshmallow Jelly Pumpkins, Six Funny Faces, a box of Chocolate Italian Creams and six character masks.  
The Complete Outfit 99c

**French Chocolates**  
A distinctive package of delicious Chocolates, which suggests itself as a most suitable first prize for Halloween contests.  
Full Pound 99c

**Halloween Figures**  
Black Cats, Witches, Goblins, Pumpkin Heads, Skulls, Owls, etc. From 5c to \$1.19

**Halloween Lanterns**  
Filled with delicious Sweets. Priced from 29c to \$1.19

**Chocolate Cats, Witches and other moulded Halloween novelties.**  
19c, 24c and 29c

**Special Halloween Big Three Package**  
Friday and Saturday, October 29th and 30th

**Assorted Cocoanut Kisses**  
Presented in Chocolate, Vanilla and the characteristic Halloween tint.  
Elsewhere, Pound 60c  
Loft Special Price, 29c

**Moon Faces and Funny Faces**—made of Candy. Excellent for dinner favors.  
10c 15c 21c

**Chocolate Covered Sweetmeats**  
Assortment is made up of Chocolate Covered Dates and Figs, Chocolate Covered Peanuts, Filberts, Raisin Clusters and Cream Peppermints in attractive Halloween package.  
Elsewhere, Pound 69c  
Loft Special Price, 39c

**Fancy Dipped Marshmallows**—Many delightfully different styles, chocolate dipped with novelty topping.  
Elsewhere, Package 44c 59c  
Loft Special Price, 44c 59c

**All Three Packages**  
for 99¢ While They Last!

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